

a sheath (22) of a material having a low friction coefficient, permitting the strands (20) to move longitudinally in relation to one another and independently of each other.

[Figure 3]

In the Claims

Please amend claim 11 as follows.

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11. (Amended) A tension member, comprising a plurality of fiber filaments gathered into a plurality of strands in which the filaments run close together, around which strands there is provided a protective sheath, wherein between at least some of the strands and the protective sheath there are provided spacing elements, which spacing elements define an inner continuous cavity adapted to receive a plurality of strands, said cavity having a cross section corresponding to, at least, approximately the total cross section of all the strands, and that each strand is coated on the exterior thereof with sheath of a material having a low friction coefficient, permitting the strands to move longitudinally in relation to one another and independently of each other.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and further examination of the above-identified patent application in light of the present Amendment, Reply, and Remarks is respectfully requested.

A Petition for an extension of time is enclosed along with the required extension fee.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any deficiency in fees or any other fees in connection with the above-identified patent application to our Deposit Account No. 23-0920.

A corrected drawing of Figure 2 is enclosed as requested by the Examiner. Reference characters "6, 7" now designated different elements in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 (p) (4).

The Specification has been amended as per the Examiner's request. The phrase "figure 3" has been deleted from the abstract of the disclosure in compliance with MPEP § 608.01 (b). The arrangement of the Specification has been amended with section headings as provided in 37 CFR 1.77 (b) and the Specification has been amended to better comply with U.S. style of specifications.

A timely filed terminal disclaimer is enclosed as per the Examiner's request to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting